

# The LOVER.

By MARMADUKE MYRTLE, Gent.

— *Nec tarda senectus*  
*Debilitat vires* —

Virg.

Thursday, May 27. 1714.

**T**HE Bosom into which Love enters, inclines the Person who is inspired with it, with a Goodness towards all with whom he converses, more extensive than even that which is insilled by Charity. I pretend to so much of this noble Passion, as seldom to overlook the Excellencies of other Men; and I forgive Mrs. Page all the Pangs my Passion has given me, since, though I am never to have her, all other Persons are become more agreeable to me, from the large good Will, the beginning of which I owe to the Admiration of her. There are no Excellencies of Mind or Body in any Person that comes before me, which escape my Observation, and I take great Pleasure in divulging my Sense of them.

I must confess, Entertainments of the Neighbouring Theatre frequently engage my Evenings; I do not take it to be a Condescension, that some of my Papers are but Paraphrases upon Play Bills. I have grown old in the Observation of the Feats of Activity and Genius for intelligent Movements, which I have always loved in my old Acquaintance *Jo. Prince*, who is to entertain us on Monday next with several new Inventions, wherein he has expressed the Compass and Variety of his excellent Talent. One of those Diversions he calls the *Rattle* from the *Harlequin*, irregular and comick Movements with which it is performed; another, which he hath termed the *Loobey*, is performed by himself, bearing a *Prong*, and Mrs. *Bicknall* managing a *Rake* with as much Beauty (tho' a little higher Dancing), as an *Arcadian* Shepherdess. The next Dance he will give us is very aptly called the *Innocent*, to be performed by Mrs. *Younger*, a genteel Movement, consisting of a *Serebrand* and *Gigg*, to represent both the Simplicity and Gaiety of that Character.

The fourth Act will be followed by a Motion contrived to represent the Midnight Mirth of Link-boys; the Dance is very Humorous, and well imagined.

His Play concludes with what they call a Figure Dance, performed by an Elegant Assembly of Gentlemen and Ladies, and is as much different from any of the preceding Movements, as the Style of a Poem is above that of a Ballad.

(Price Two Pence.)

But I must turn my Thoughts from this Performer, to a Person who has also diverted many different Generations on the Theatre, but in a much higher Sphere; to wit, in the Character of a Poet. The Person whom I am about to mention is the Celebrated Mr. *d'Urfey*, who has had the Fate of all great Authors, to have met with much Envy and Opposition; but the sagacious part of Mankind ward (as soon as they begin to grow conspicuous) themselves against the Envious, by representing the Nobility of their Birth; and I do not know why I may not as well defend the Writings of my Friend against the Malice of Criticks, by shewing how Ancient a Gentleman he is from whom they pretend to detract. I will undertake to show those who pretend to Cavil at my Friends Writings, that his Ancestors made a greater Figure in the World, nay in the Learned World, than their own.

*Monsieur Perrault, the famous French Academist, in his Memoirs of the Worthies of France, gives this Testimony of the House of d'Urfey.*

**H**onorius d'Urfey, says he, Cadet of the Illustrious House of d'Urfey, in the Province of *Forrest*, was chosen Knight of *Malta*, and discharged the *duties* of his Profession, with all the Bravery and all the Exactness it could require.

He had two Brothers, the Eldest of which married the Heiress of *Chattermoran*; but the Marriage afterwards being declared Null, by Reason of his Insufficiency, he became Religious, and died Prior of *Mountverdon*, and Dean of the Chapter of *St. John de Mountbrissan*.

The second Brother, was Master of the Horse to the Duke of *Savoy*, and liv'd to be above one hundred Years old.

Honorius was very much admired for many noble and witty Performances; but what principally obliges us to put him into the Number of our Illustrious Men, was the Beauty and Fertility which appears with so much Splendor in *Astrea*, the Romance he has left us, in which are lively Pictures of all the Conditions of human Life, in so genuine a Manner, that the Idea he gives of them has not



not only for above fifty Years past charmed all France, but all Europe.

Whatever Veneration we are obliged to have for the admirable Poems of *Homer*, which have been the Delight of all Ages, yet, I believe, it may be said, that to consider them on the Score of Invention, Manners, Passion and Character, Monsieur d'Ursey's *Astrea*, tho' Prose, deserves no less the Name of a Poem, and not in the least inferior to *Homer's*; this is the Judgment of very learned Men, viz. Cardinal Richlieu, Mr. Waller, Cowley, &c. And those, who have been very much prepossess'd for the Antients, against the Moderns:

Of this excellent Romance we mention, tho' finish'd by another, he dying before the last Tome was written, yet he left enough from his own Hand to establish his Fame; nor was it found to be merely Romance, but an enigmatical Contexture of his own principal Adventures, before he set out for his noble Station at *Malta*, where he remained several Years.

He had conceived a Love for Mademoiselle de Chateaumorant, sole Heiress of her Family, beautiful, rich and haughty, but of that noble Haughtiness which is commonly inspired by great Virtues; in his Absence, she was married to his eldest Brother, more upon a political Account than any united Affection, as will thus appear.

The Houses of d'Ursey and Chateaumorant, the two greatest of the whole Province, were always at Enmity with one another, and their Interests had divided all the Nobility of the Country, so that the Parents on both sides were willing by this Alliance to dry up the Source of the Quarrels and Misfortunes, which usually happened every Moment.

d'Ursey, at his Return from *Malta*, found his Mistress married to his Brother, yet still he could not cease to love her; and in all likelihood was not ignorant of his secret Defect, who, after ten Years Marriage, confessing at last his Impotence, was divorc'd; and then the Chevalier (obtaining a Dispensation of his Vow) after he had surmounted several Difficulties, espoused Mademoiselle Chateaumorant.

These Adventures gave Occasion to those of Celladon, Silvander, *Astrea* and *Diana*, who are the mystical Images of them, divers Affairs of Persons of the best Quality at Court, in his Time, having also furnish'd Matter for the ingenious Construction of the Work.

So far Perrault.

Severinus d'Ursey, his near Kinsman, the before-mentioned Chevalier being his great Uncle, for the Extravagancy of his Youth, or some other Reason which has always been a Secret to those about him, was disinherited some time before he came into England, where being excellently well gifted in all Gentleman-like Qualities tho' undoing all by his immoderate Vice of Gaming, he married a Gentlewoman of *Huntingdownshire*, of the Family of the *Marmions*, from whom descended *Thomas d'Ursey*, the Ornament of this Paper.

There seems to be no Blot in this Pedigree, but that of the Insufficiency of the Gentleman who married the Heiress of Chateaumorant; but as he could by reason of that defect have no Descendants, the Heralds of Germany, Scotland and Wales all agree, that Insufficiency in a Collateral Line cannot affect the Heirs General; so that thus my Friend and his

Writings are safe against the most malicious Criticks in this particular.

Monsieur Menage reports, that the d'Urseys descended from the Emperors of Constantinople on the Father's side, and the Viceroy of Naples on the Mother's. I shall put Menage's Words by way of Advertisement at the end of my to-Days Work. This long Account I have inserted, that the Ignorant of Mr. d'Ursey's Quality may know how to receive him, when on the Seventh of next Month he shall appear (as he designs) in Honour of the Ladies. I speak an Oration by way of Prologue to the *Richmond Heiress*.

That Gentleman has so long appeared in the Cities of London and Westminster, attended only by one Servant, and him all along under Age, that the Generality have too familiar a Conception of him; but it is to be hoped, that the Ladies, for whose Sake only he appears in Publick, will Smile upon him, as if he himself were a Knight of Malta, and receive him as if they beheld *Honorius* and *Severinus* in their professed Servant *Thomas d'Ursey*. It is recommended to all the fine Spirits, and beautiful Ladies, to possess themselves of Mr. d'Ursey's Tickets, least a further Account, which we shall shortly give of his Family and Merit, may make the Generality Purchase them, and exclude those whom he most desires for his Audience.

Extract from Menage.

Messire d'Ursey se nomment lasenris en leur nom de Family et Prendent titre issus des Anciens Lasenris Emperours de Constantinople le dernier Marquis d'Ursey qui avoit eposé une daigre disoit a ses fils qui étoit exempt des Gardes, Mon fils, vous avez de grands Exemples a suivre tant du Côté Paternel que Maternel de mon Côté vos Ancêtres étoient Emperours d'Orient et du Côté de votre Mere vous venes de Viceroy de Naples le fils rependit il faut Monsieur que ce soient de pauvres gens de n'avoir pu faire qu'un miserable exempt de Gardes d'on vient qu'ils ne n'ont laisi ni l'Empire ni leur Viceroyante.

## ADVERTISEMENT S.

Yesterday was Publish'd,

A New Translation of the Characters of Theophrastus. Translated from the Greek by Eustace Budgell, Esq; These Characters are under the Titles of Diffimulation, Flattery, Impertinence in Discourse, Rusticity, False Complaisance, A profligate or shameless Fellow, Loquacity, the Newslinger, Impudence as it proceeds from Coverousness, Sordid Avarice, A Man abandon'd to all Sense of Shame, Absurd or Unreasonable Behaviour, Over officiousness, The Absent Man, Brutality, Superstition, a Discontented Temper, a Suspicious Man, a Sloven, a Troublesome Fellow, Van Glory, a Niggardly Temper, Ostentation, Pride, Cowardice, an Oligarchist or one who is of the Faction of the Nobles, in Opposition to the People in a Commonwealth. A Man who would accomplish himself when it is too late, and Detraction. Printed for Jacob Tonson at Shakespear's Head over against Catherine-street in the Strand.

This Day is Published,

The Romish Ecclesiastical History of late Years. By Richard Steele, Esq;

Suis & ipsa Roma viribus mit.

Hor.

Printed for J. Roberts near the Oxford Arms in Warwick-lane.

AT the Mathematical WATER-THEATRE, of the late Ingenious Mr. Wintianly, this Evening at 6 of the Clock, will be several new Curiosities performed, viz. the famous Barrel will be made a Dairy House, entertaining the Boxes and Pit, with Curds, and several sorts of Creams, Milk, Whey, Cakes Cheesecakes, Sullibubs, new Butter, and butter Milk, which a Woman will be seen to Churn, with other Rural Figures suitable, all playing Water, and Coffee and Tea will be given, and all Curiosities will be shown as usual. With an Addition of several Figures playing Fire and Water; then ending with a great Tempest of Thunder and Lightning, with Fire mingling with many Cascades of Water, to the expense of 500 Tuns extraordinary. Boxes 3s. Pit 2s. 6d. First Gallery 1s. 6d. Upper Gallery 6d. This is at the lower End of Piccadilly towards Hyde-Park, and is known by the Wind-Mill on the Top of it. And is shown for the Benefit of his Widow.

L O N D O N, Printed: And Sold by Ferd. Burleigh, in Amen-Corner, Where Advertisements are taken in.

